



ACUB Fact Sheet

Fort A.P. Hill



Background

The mission of Fort A.P. Hill (FAPH) is to provide realistic joint and combined arms training, logistics and support, enabling America's defense forces to win in 21st century battle space. With 76,000 acres of land, FAPH is one of the largest military installations on the East Coast and is the training center nearest the National Capital Region. The installation's range and training facilities operate 365 days a year and are used by all services, Reserve units, non-DoD and civilian organizations. Approximately 55,000 military personnel from all services train annually at FAPH.

For most of its history, FAPH has been surrounded by rural land, unaffected by incompatible land use. The installation is still bordered by largely unfragmented forest that has a number of exemplary ecosystems. Virginia's Department of Conservation and Recreation recently rated FAPH and the adjoining forest lands as one of only six large natural landscape cores of outstanding ecological significance.

Caroline and Essex counties have been rural, sparsely populated areas dominated by forestland and small farms. In recent years, both counties have been experiencing significant growth in close proximity to FAPH. Continued incompatible land use close to the installation can eventually restrict future use of range and training lands.

When completed, FAPH and its ACUB partners will have created a buffer comprising approximately 16,000 acres on the northeastern boundary of the installation, 8,300 acres along the southern boundary, and 11,000 acres on the western boundary. The ACUB helps to preserve the ecological integrity of the surrounding landscape to prevent operational restrictions likely to occur if FAPH becomes an island of quality habitat in an otherwise developed and fragmented landscape.

Objective

The Fort A.P. Hill ACUB program sustains the military mission by ensuring that open lands surrounding the installation are protected from incompatible land use that could limit or disrupt operational readiness and training activities. The ACUB protects key natural habitats and the associated flora and fauna, while support-

ing regional objectives to protect remaining farming and forestry land uses.

Partners

The Trust for Public Land, Chesapeake & Central Appalachians Field Office

Conserves land for people to enjoy as parks, community gardens, historic sites, rural lands, and other natural places, ensuring livable communities for generations to come. For further information, call 202-543-7552 or visit <http://www.tpl.org/>.

The Nature Conservancy, The Virginia Chapter

Protects diverse natural communities through the purchase of land. For further information, call 434-295-6106 or visit <http://www.nature.org/wherework/northamerica/states/virginia/>.

The Conservation Fund

Forges partnerships to protect America's legacy of land and water resources. For further information, call 703-525-6300 or visit <http://www.conservationfund.org/>.

Virginia Outdoors Foundation

Promotes preservation of open space lands to preserve the natural, scenic, historic, open-space and recreational areas of the Commonwealth. For further information, call 804-371-2724 or visit www.virginiaoutdoorsfoundation.org.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Conserves, protects, and enhances the nation's fish and wildlife and their habitats for the continuing benefit of people. For further information, call 804 693-6694 or visit www.fws.gov

Installation ACUB POC

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